

# Freedom of Information request 919/2013

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## Information request

How much money did the DWP save by imposing financial sanctions on JSA claimants in the Rochdale area. If this is not possible I will accept these figures covering the Greater Manchester East and West district.

## DWP response

The Department does not hold the information requested. The Department collects information on how many sanctions have been imposed. However, to answer the question the Department would not only need to calculate the amount and duration of each individual sanction as well as factoring in successful appeals and hardship payments awarded following a sanction, but also to estimate what would have happened to claimants had they not received the sanction (for example they may have stopped receiving benefit).

We estimate that the cost of complying with your request would exceed the appropriate limit of £600. The appropriate limit has been specified in regulations and for central Government it is set at £600. This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 3½ working days in determining whether the Department holds the information, and locating, retrieving and extracting the information. Under section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act the Department is not obliged to comply with your request and we will not be processing your request further.